

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-49, and 54-57 remain in this application. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Claims 2, 5, and 50-53 have been canceled. New claim 57 has been added.

1. Allowed Claims

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 54-56, and further that the Examiner has indicated the subject matter of claims 2, 6-36, and 38-49 are patentable and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitation of claim 2. New claim 57 has been added which is claim 28 written in independent form.

In view of the above amendments to the claims, applicant submits that all of the rejections made by the Examiner have been overcome.

2. Conclusion

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of record, Applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims 1, 3, 4, 6-49, and 54-57 and a prompt Notice of Allowance thereon.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

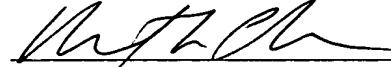
Appl. No.: 09/830,512
Amdt. Dated: 12/19/2003
Reply to Final Office Action of: 10/21/2003

Please direct any questions or comments to Robert L. Carlson at 607-974-3502.

Respectfully submitted,

CORNING INCORPORATED

Date: December 19, 2003



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